

Testimony of

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Before the

Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

This bill is absolutely necessary if CT plans on limiting the impact of the teacher burnout and shortage we are experiencing. My own wife, who loves teaching kindergarten, wants to leave her job due to the lack of play-based learning and obsession with data-driven teaching. Students are beginning their educational careers miserable in the classroom, being forced to sit in desks all day and not learning the basic social skills they need to carry them through life. Schools across CT are old and not meeting the demands of students in the 21st century. The simple lack of AC and proper heat in classrooms is unacceptable, not to mention the endless issues districts are having with mold.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

